

1-1-2002

Table of Contents and Prologue

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Recommended Citation

Bender, Joshua and Benfer, Matthew (2002) "Table of Contents and Prologue," *Oz*. Vol. 24. <https://doi.org/10.4148/2378-5853.1367>

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OZ

Volume 24, 2002

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Cover Image: Takashi Yamaguchi,
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Oz is a nonprofit journal edited, designed,
and produced annually by students in
the Kansas State University College of
Architecture, Planning, and Design.

ISSN 0888-7802

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Please address inquiries to:
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Prologue

The city is a **natural machine**: a spontaneous, constructed, living thing, operating through an ambiguous set of natural and artificial processes. Amidst the sum of achievements and unrealized intentions, the complex and interconnected whims of the city's inhabitants and creators, it exists as part of our landscape. We want to explore the possibilities that this definition affords the city's form and its implications for architecture.

nat·u·ral : 1 a : implies lacking artificiality and self-consciousness and having a spontaneousness suggesting the natural rather than the man-made world

ma·chine : 1 a archaic : a constructed thing whether material or immaterial
2 a : a living organism or one of its functional systems

*definitions: Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary